

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-20

USIA-06 DRC-01 AF-04 /064 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13697

E.O. 11652: NA/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: OPENING AN AMERICAN LIBRARY IN BANGALORE

1. I UNDERSTAND THAT USIA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS MET ON THE PROPOSITION THAT A USIS-FUNDED AMERICAN LIBRARY BE OPENED IN BANGALORE UNDER INDIAN COUNCIL OF CULTURAL RELATIONS AUSPICES AND THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS VOTED DOWN SUBJECT TO YOUR FINAL DECISION.

2. THIS IS HARDLY AN EARTH-SHAKING MATTER. ALL OF US CAN LIVE WITHOUT AN AMERICAN LIBRARY IN BANGALORE. YET SUCH A LIBRARY (IN ADDITION TO MAYBE INSPIRING SOME FUTURE NEHRU TO DRINK AT THE FRONT OF JEFFERSON RATHER THAN MARX) WOULD HAVE IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM POLITICAL ADVANTAGES THAT NEED TO BE WEIGHED.

3. OPENING A LIBRARY IN BANGALORE WOULD ESTABLISH AN AMERICAN PRESENCE WHERE IT'S NEEDED. IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE THAT BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED TO SET ASIDE THEIR WELL KNOWN RESENTMENTS STEMMING FROM INDIA'S CLUMSY HANDLING OF THE LIBRARIES QUESTION DURING THOSE ACRIMONIOUS YEARS TO WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT WILL NOW HELP WRITE FINISH. IT WOULD SIGNAL OUR MANY POTENTIAL FRIENDS IN UNIVERSITIES AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS THAT IT'S AGAIN ALL RIGHT TO
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HAVE

LINKS WITH USIS, SINCE THE GOI DOES.

4. THE BRITISH LIBRARIES HERE HAVE OPERATED THIS ENTIRE PAST YEAR UNDER THE SAME ICCR AEGIS WHICH SOME FIND SO FRAUGHT WITH DANGER, AND THEY ARE FLOURISHING. WHEN THE WEST GERMAN CULTURAL CENTERS IN INDIA WERE RECENTLY ATTACKED BY LEFT-WINGERS IN PARLIAMENT, THE GOI SPOKESMAN WAS ABLE TO DRAW A PROTECTIVE MANTEL AROUND THESE MAX MUELLER HOUSES BY POINTING TO THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE ICCR.

5. BUT WE CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CARRY THE BALL ON THE BANGALORE LIBRARY OR ON OTHER PROJECTS DESIGNED TO TRANSPOSE OUR RELATIONS WITH INDIA TO A NEW, MORE MATURE BASIS WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING SUPPORT FROM WASHINGTON. THE DECISION ON THE LIBRARY IS CLEARLY YOURS AND THAT'S AS IT SHOULD BE.
MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: LIBRARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Draft Date: 12 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, IN, US
To: DAR ES SALAAM NAIROBI
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005